

REMARKS

Claims 1-17 are the claims that have been examined in the pending application. Claims 1-17 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Young et al. (U.S. 6,669,564, hereafter “Young”) in view of Pytlovany (U.S. 6,690,992, hereafter “Pytlovany”). Claims 18-23 have been withdrawn as being directed to a non-elected invention.

By this amendment, Applicant is amending claims 1 and 11 and canceling claims 18-23.

§103(a) rejection

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Claim 1, as amended, recites, in part, “a search engine for finding a target content providing home page adapted to receive over the network, hint keywords, input by a user, from a user terminal and for using the received keywords as the search condition to perform a search processing to create a list of relevant content providing home page addresses and sending the list to the user terminal...”

Young discloses a system, method and apparatus that allow episodic delivery of entertainment content to a user. Young, col. 6, line 52 - col. 7, line 35 teaches that a storyline may be deconstructed into small segments, allowing the designer to include new characters and storylines easily, and which are then delivered to a user in periodic episodes. Young col. 10, line 44 - col. 11, line 10 discloses placing a technological shell in an existing separate server, and then having users access a centralized server to play the subsequent episodes. Young fails,

however, to disclose searching for a home page address to provide relevant content. In col. 12, line 60 - col. 13, line 11 of Young, the reference discloses the methods in which episodic content may be sent to a user, i.e. e-mail, voice mail, facsimile, or some combination thereof. The episodic content may then direct users to additional episodic content, some of which may be located on internet web sites. Young does not teach or suggest that a search is performed for a home page address which contains relevant content. Thus, Young fails to teach or suggest this element of amended claim 1.

Pytlovany discloses a method and system for searching for executable game files within a storage medium. However, Pytlovany does not teach or suggest searching for a home page address which contains relevant content. Pytlovany's disclosure is limited to searching for executable game files.

Therefore, because Pytlovany does not cure the deficiencies noted above, either alone or in combination with Young, the combined references do not render claim 1 unpatentable, as not all of the elements of claim 1 are taught or suggested by the applied references. Claim 1, as amended, is patentable over the applied references.

Claims 2-10 are patentable by virtue of their dependency from claim 1.

Claim 11, as amended, recites similar limitations to those found in amended claim 1. For reasons analogous to those noted for claim 1, claim 11 is also patentable.

Claims 12-17 are patentable at least by virtue of their dependency from claim 11.

Conclusion

In view of the above, reconsideration and allowance of this application are now believed to be in order, and such actions are hereby solicited. If any points remain in issue which the Examiner feels may be best resolved through a personal or telephone interview, the Examiner is kindly requested to contact the undersigned at the telephone number listed below.

The USPTO is directed and authorized to charge all required fees, except for the Issue Fee and the Publication Fee, to Deposit Account No. 19-4880. Please also credit any overpayments to said Deposit Account.

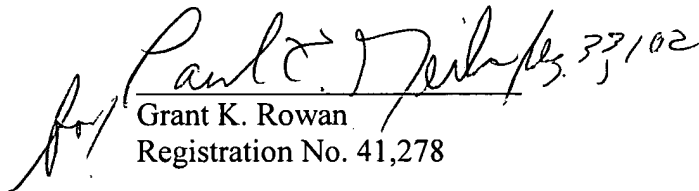
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